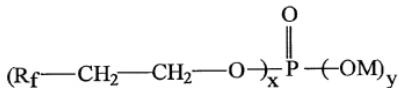


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A functional fluid comprising a phosphate ester basestock and a salt or mixture of salts represented by the formula



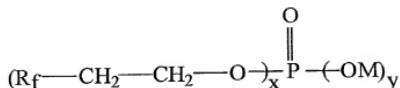
where R_f is $F(CF_2CF_2)_z$, $x = 1$ or 2 , $y = 1$ or 2 provided that the sum of x and y is 3 , and $z = 1$ to about 7 .

10 2. The fluid of claim 1 wherein the salt or mixture of salts comprises about 0.01 to about 0.5 wt% of the basestock.

3. The fluid of claim 2 wherein M is an alkali metal.

15 4. The fluid of claim 3 wherein M is potassium.

5. The method of inhibiting the erosion tendency of a phosphate ester based fluid comprising incorporating in the fluid from 0.01 to about 0.5 wt% of a compound or mixture of compounds represented by the formula



where R_f is $F(CF_2CF_2)_z$, $x = 1$ or 2 , $y = 1$ or 2 provided that the sum of x and y is 3 , and $z = 1$ to about 7 .

25 6. The method of claim 5 wherein M is an alkali metal.